



SCHOOL OF ARTS & SCIENCES  
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

11066 Auke Lake Way  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel: (907) 796-6518  
Fax: (907) 796-6406  
[uas.alaska.edu](http://uas.alaska.edu)

## Memorandum of Agreement

### Between Sealaska Corporation and University of Alaska Southeast

---

#### I. Introduction

This MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT is designed to further the communication and collaboration between SEALASKA CORPORATION and UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA, SOUTHEAST (UAS) in relation to the MASTER OF MARINE POLICY program.

---

#### II. Purpose

The Master of Marine Policy program, a joint degree between the University of Alaska Southeast and the University of Alaska Fairbanks, aims to develop expertise in marine policy, emphasizing the integration of natural and social sciences. Recognizing the program's significance to the Southeast Alaska region and its workforce, UAS seeks to ensure its success and sustainability. The initial funding provided by President Pat Pitney underscores the program's importance, but additional support is needed to stabilize and grow it.

Partnering with Sealaska Corporation aligns with UAS's goal to indigenize our programs, leveraging Sealaska's extensive network for recruitment and to appoint a dynamic faculty member who can shape this vital position. Indigenizing our MMP program is not only a matter of respecting and acknowledging the historical stewardship of Indigenous communities over these lands and waters but also for the pragmatic benefits it brings to our policy frameworks. Indigenous communities possess centuries of accumulated knowledge and sustainable practices that can enhance our understanding of marine ecosystems, leading to more effective and resilient policy solutions. By integrating these perspectives, we incorporate principles of stewardship and efficiency, ensuring that our policies are rooted in proven practices that conserve resources and respect the interconnectedness of our ecosystems. This approach does not only bridge historical gaps but also paves the way for policies that are more inclusive, sustainable, and effective, benefiting all stakeholders involved.



SCHOOL OF ARTS & SCIENCES  
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

11066 Auke Lake Way  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel: (907) 796-6518  
Fax: (907) 796-6406  
[uas.alaska.edu](http://uas.alaska.edu)

This collaboration is pivotal in enhancing the program's appeal and driving student enrollment, contributing to the development of Southeast Alaska's workforce and environmental stewardship.

---

### III. Outcomes

The execution of this MOA symbolizes a significant stride in fortifying the partnership between UAS and Sealaska. This alliance paves the way for a degree program poised to catalyze growth and progress in Southeast Alaska. The collaboration is expected to yield a robust academic environment, drawing in passionate learners and contributing to the region's ecological and policy development.

---

### IV. Partners

Sealaska Corporation is a for-profit entity that serves as the parent corporation of Sealaska Heritage. It plays a vital role in the economic and cultural development of Southeast Alaska, with a focus on sustainable practices and the promotion of Alaska Native heritage.

The University of Alaska Southeast (UAS), accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, is dedicated to providing a diverse range of academic programs. Situated in the unique environment of Southeast Alaska, UAS is committed to delivering education that respects and integrates the region's cultural and natural heritage, promoting student success and community engagement.

---

### V. Agreement Terms

1. **Financial Commitment:** Sealaska Corporation agrees to contribute \$100,000 over a two-year period for the support of a full-time, tenure-track, faculty position in the Master of Marine Policy Program at UAS, with an annual disbursement of \$50,000.



SCHOOL OF ARTS & SCIENCES  
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

11066 Auke Lake Way  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel: (907) 796-6518  
Fax: (907) 796-6406  
[uas.alaska.edu](http://uas.alaska.edu)

2. UAS, by using UA Statewide funds, agrees to contribute \$125,000 for a full-time, tenure-track, faculty position in the Master of Marine Policy Program at UAS.
3. Faculty Recruitment: UAS agrees to conduct a comprehensive search for this full-time, tenure-track, faculty member. This position will encompass a broad range of specializations including Alaska Native/Indigenous Studies, Law/Economics, Environmental Policy/Law, or Maritime/Marine Policy/Politics, aligning with the goals of the Master of Marine Policy program. Additionally, UAS agrees to have a member of Sealaska Corp. or Sealaska Heritage Institute on the Search Committee, representing Sealaska's interests.

Signature Authority:

DocuSigned by:  
*Joe Nelson*  
5019FEE68CF2481  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph Nelson,  
President, Sealaska

March 6, 2024  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

DocuSigned by:  
*Julie Vigil*  
40B86D1DDFB245A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Julie Vigil,  
Director, Budgets, Grants & Contracts, University of Alaska Southeast

March 6, 2024  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

DocuSigned by:  
*Carin Silkaitis*  
B870C487498A4EF  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Carin D. Silkaitis,  
Dean of Arts and Sciences, University of Alaska Southeast

March 8, 2024  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

DocuSigned by:  
*Aparna Palmer*  
74DA0733C2A742D  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Aparna Dileep-Nageswaran Palmer,  
Chancellor, University of Alaska Southeast

March 8, 2024  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date